

START
AGAIN

Week of June 19, 2016

With Faith

Start Again • Numbers 5:11-31 & 11-14 • Message 2

Review

God is leading his people through wilderness to a place of blessing, but they are struggling to trust him and leave their old lives behind.

The Most Important Question

The biggest question in the book of Numbers is this: Do I believe God is actually with me? Have you ever had a time in your life when you could answer that question with a strong “Yes”? Share with your group.

Have you ever had a time in your life when your answer to that question would have been more doubtful or even a strong “No”? Share with the group.

Read Numbers 10:33-34. If you had been there, how would you have felt about the presence of the cloud?

Read 2 Chronicles 15:2 and Matthew 28:20. Does the assurance of God’s presence apply to people today? What difference does that make to you?

The Wilderness Challenges

On Sunday, we considered three stories where the people were overcome by the hardships of the wilderness and failed to trust God in their midst.

Read Numbers 11:1-3. Why do you think God was upset with them?

Read Numbers 11:4-6. How could they have seriously thought about returning to Egypt? What do you think about that?

Read Numbers 11:18-20. God was going to judge the people by giving them more meat than they could handle. They would become sick and many would die, but verse 20 tells us God’s reason for it. What was it?

Read Numbers 12:1-2. This is the story of Aaron and Miriam attempting to usurp Moses’ authority. God confronts them both even giving Miriam leprosy. What do you think about their reasons for opposing Moses?

Take it Home

The wilderness prompted the people of Israel to grumble, to crave something “better” and to blame their situation on their leader for irrelevant reasons. Have you seen people act like that? When?

What should we do to keep our faith in the midst of the wilderness?

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